



## Main Street Monday!

December 14, 2015

#### **Happenings Around the State**



Henderson city commissioners have signed off on a plan to restore the historic Union Station depot. Commissioners agreed to pay Architectural Renovators \$80,000 to fix it up and they agreed to transfer the property to Mike Martin, the company's owner.

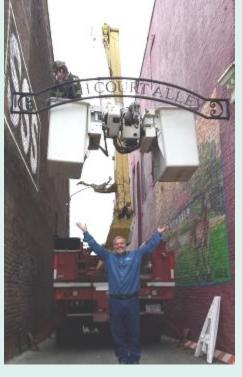
No word on when work will start.

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Initially, the commission was looking for demolition bids, but Architectural Renovators said it could get the job done. commission was looking for demolition bids, but Architectural Renovators said it could get the job done.



Main Street Georgetown will do a ribbon cutting for this great new space on Friday morning. They have a new pubic art piece, a horse farm mural and this great metal work piece by John Carter (pictured) who also works at the Planning and Zoning office. This alley way leads to a city parking lot and it is their hope that the more friendly environment will encourage more use of the space. Lighting will be in the next phase. The downtown community is vey excited with the change and are already asking which alley will be next!

This new guidebook just got posted on Smart Growth America's social media sights. Vicki Birenberg and I listened to their webinar today. One of their focus communities was Macon, GA and it was interesting to see that they (Macon and Smart Growth) are advocating what we have been doing in Kentucky for years! Community engagement, walkable spaces, connected trails, tax credits, diversified economies, entrepreneurship, partnerships, and on and on. I don't understand why Main Street is not recognized as the leader in making all of this happen! It is obvious that others get the concept and are making it their mission and capitalizing on the movement.

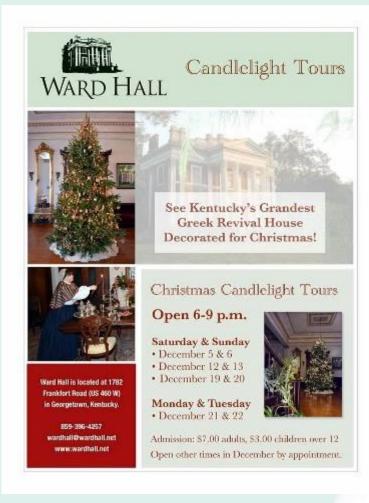
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https://twitter.com/SmartGrowthUSA

http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/guides/rebuilding-downtown

## A Healthy Downtown is Key to a Strong Community

Here's a great article that you will want to share with others! http://plannersweb.com/2013/09/healthy-downtown-key-strong-community/





I am sad to report that Kentucky Main
Street was not a winner for the

Project for Public Spaces grant. I was really hopeful that we would be. We are making great strides in placemaking and partnerships with other state agencies that are helping us create great downtowns.

Hopefully this opportunity will be offered again and we will definitely apply.



I will be out of the office on Wednesday learning more about how we can bring more local produce and farmers markets to your downtown communities.





It was perfect weather on Saturday to announce the new zipline that is coming to Pine Mtn. this spring. The bands played loudly and Santa arrived on the winning float!

A good time was had by all!



#### Hometown Holidays bring Community Together

Main Street and its businesses were lit with care, and the sounds of music and laughter filled the air as Morehead got into the Christmas spirit with the festivities of Hometown Holidays. Hometown Holidays has grown into a beloved tradition to those in Morehead.





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"It lets me go back to what I used to have when I was younger," said Craig Riggsby, known as "Soapbox Willy," of Haldeman. Riggsby and his wife are famous for their homemade soaps out of their factory in Haldeman called Morehead Kentucky Made. Riggsby has attended Hometown Holidays for three years wrapped in lights calls himself the "Hillbilly Christmas Tree."

Hometown Holidays is a shining example of the sense of community and family found in Morehead. Dr. Timothy Conner, professor of Educational Psychology at MSU, said: "I really like these events that we have ever so often because they bring the community together." He said he likes that they give him the opportunity to see people who he hasn't seen in a long time, which to him is the "most important thing."

Music pours out of almost every shop on Main Street. One of the more unique musical performances comes from the MSU Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble. Each year they perform at Coffee Tree Books much to the pleasure of all those who come in. "I think it's really fun because so many people come in and they had no idea that a tuba group could sound like this, and they're just blown away," said Coffee Tree Books and Fuzzy Duck Coffee Shop owner Susan Thomas. "They're really an amazing group of musicians ... We don't think it's Christmas until the tubas play."

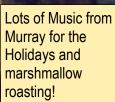
To top off the Christmas celebrations the Cave Run Symphony Orchestra performed their renditions of six holiday favorites. Dr. Donald R. Grant, director of the school of music, theater and dance, said "we've done this since the existence of the orchestra." The performance included a suite from the Christmas favorite "The Polar Express" and Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker." The Orchestra performed "Sleigh Ride" as an encore to close the concert.

The various performances and attractions found on Main Street during Hometown Holidays is the perfect way to witness the unique character of Morehead, Kentucky. "This is just an amazing community event, we have so many people from our community that come out and get together to celebrate the holidays," said Thomas. "It's a crazy time for us who are working in retail, but it's just so nice to see people getting together, and having a good time together and enjoying the holidays."

Thomas, like many others in Morehead, considers Hometown Holidays to be one of her favorite events. "I think we have this great diverse community, and we all live together, and we get along well together. I think, as a whole, we accept each other for who we are, and we live peacefully. So it's nice to have these kind of events that remind us that, despite the things that divide us, there's a lot that holds us together."















Getting ready to push the button to light the tree in Murray!

These young ladies created a parade on their float!



Steve Walton, Paris, and I were judges for the floats at the Cynthiana parade on Friday night. This float depicts their historic courthouse and included a bike in honor of their local resident, Harmon who rides his bike everywhere and is pictured to the right.



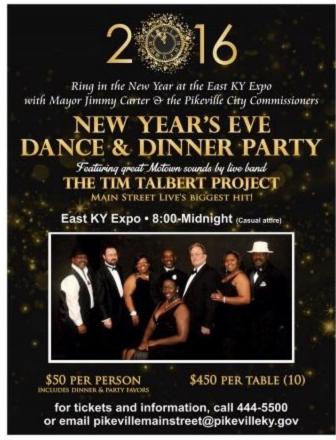




# Downtown Paintsville











If you get a chance to see the floral clock in Frankfort is beautiful. It lights up at night! This photo does not do it justice.

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